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28th May 1988
No.16 35p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

Off to the harbour!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE!

Peep! Peep! In this issue you can say hello to Edward, Henry, Trevor the Traction Engine – and Thomas, of course! Henry's driver is ill and so someone else has to take his place. Henry doesn't like his new driver at all! Read about what happened on page 8!

DON'T MISS OUT!

By taking out a year's subscription to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends,** every issue will be sent straight to your home every fortnight – and you will become a member of the **Thomas Club** *automatically!* For details and a picture of your splendid **Club Pack** turn to **page 18!**

COLOURED TOKENS!

If you do not wish to take out a year's subscription to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends,** here's another way to join our Club. Just collect **3 tokens** like the one below. Send one **green** one, one **red** one and one **yellow** one, together with a self-addressed envelope (21×16cm) complete with an **18p** stamp, to: *The Thomas Club (Tokens), Marvel Comics, 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.*

Please allow 28 days for delivery of your Club Pack.

WRITE TO THE FAT CONTROLLER!

We do enjoy reading your letters and some are printed in each issue on the Letters Page. The sender of the best letter in each issue wins a **Thomas the Tank Engine egg cup** from *Wedgwood.* If you are a Thomas Club member, don't forget to quote your number!

Who comes puffing into the next issue of Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends? It's Percy the Small Engine! Hurray!

THOMAS TOKEN

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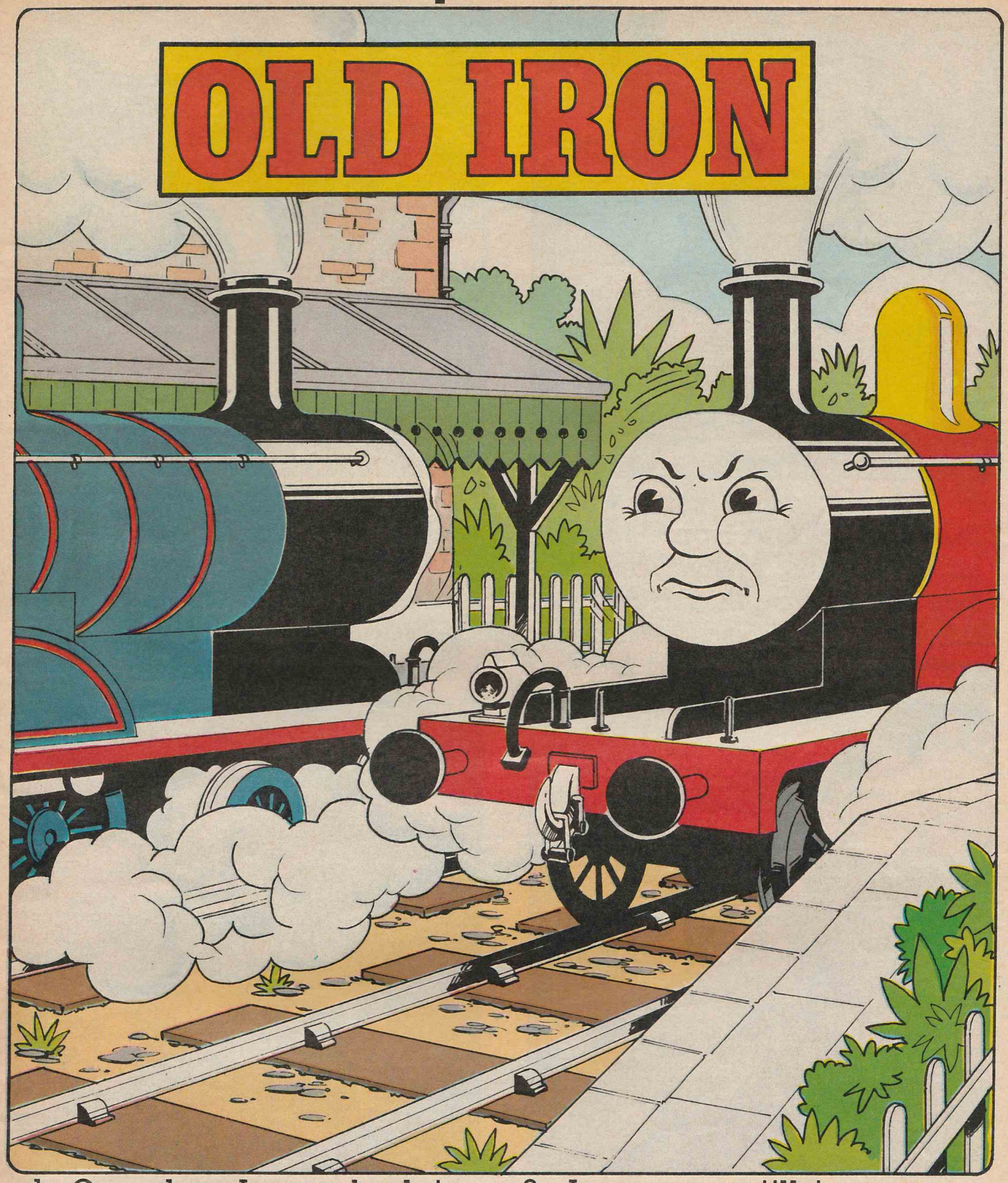
A listen and look story!

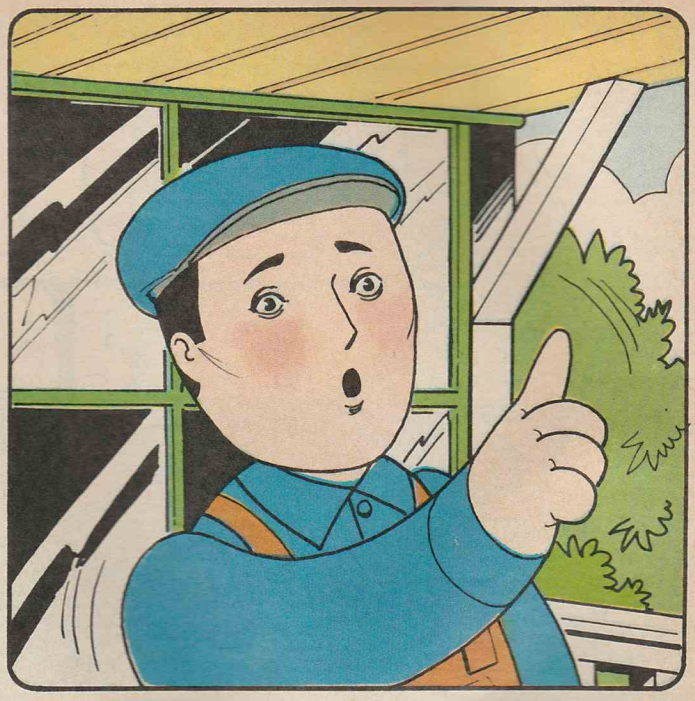
OLD IRON



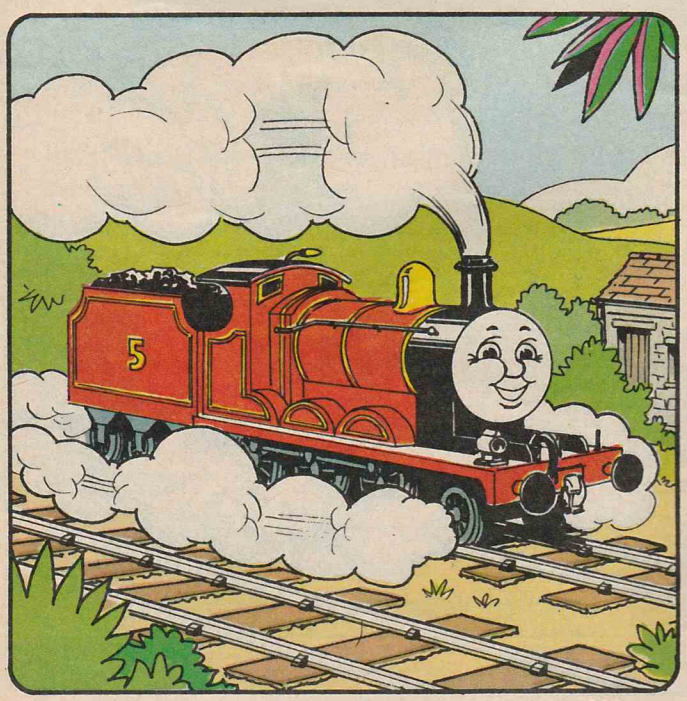
1. One day James had to wait at the station till Edward and his train came in. This made him very cross. "Late again!" he fumed, but Edward just laughed.

2. James was still in a very bad mood, that evening. "Edward is impossible," he grumbled. "He clanks about like a lot of old iron and he is so slow, he makes us wait."

3. Thomas and Percy were indignant. "Old iron? Slow?" said Thomas. "Why, Edward could beat you in a race any day!" "Really?" said James. "I'd like to see him do it!"

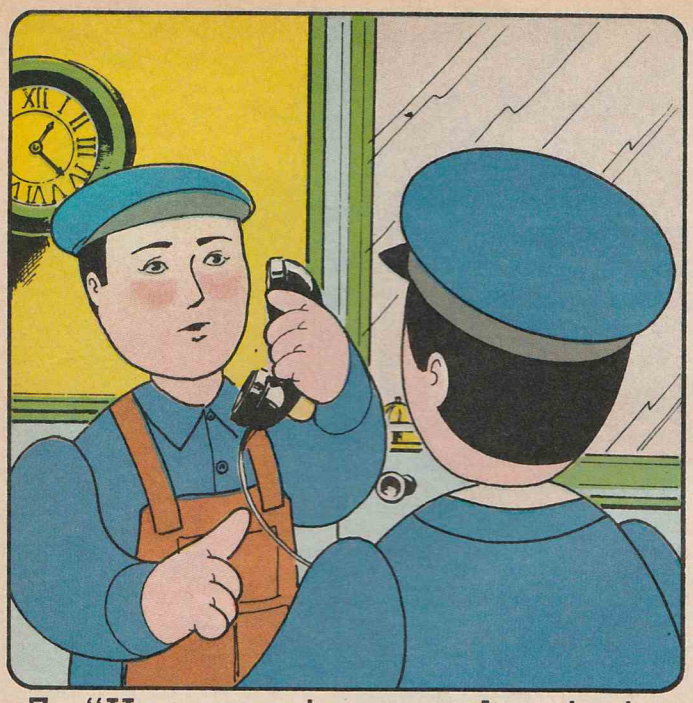


4. James's driver was taken ill the next morning, so the Fireman uncoupled James for shunting. But James was impatient. Then suddenly the Signalman shouted out.

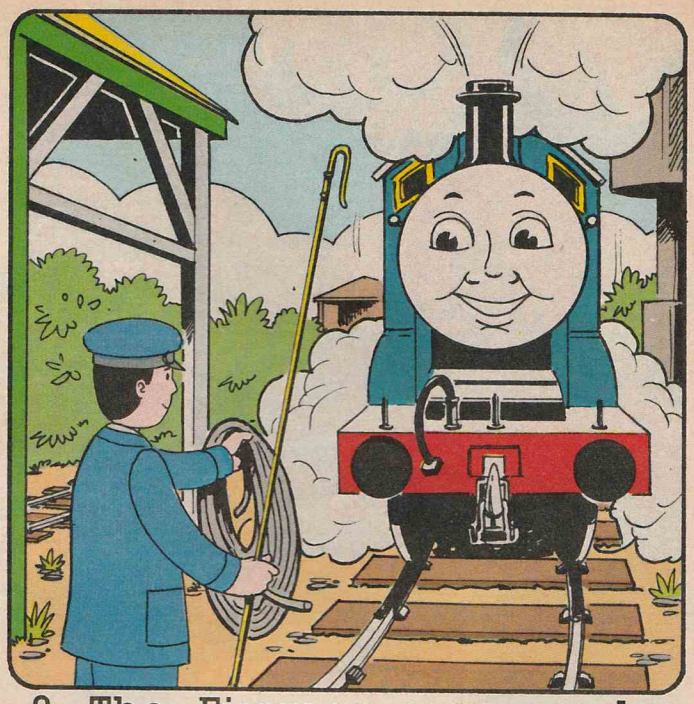


5. There was James puffing away down the line without a driver! Quickly, the Signalman announced, "All traffic halted!" Then he told the Fireman what had happened.

6. "Two boys were on James's footplate fiddling with the controls," he said. "They tumbled off and ran when James started. The Inspector is coming at once."



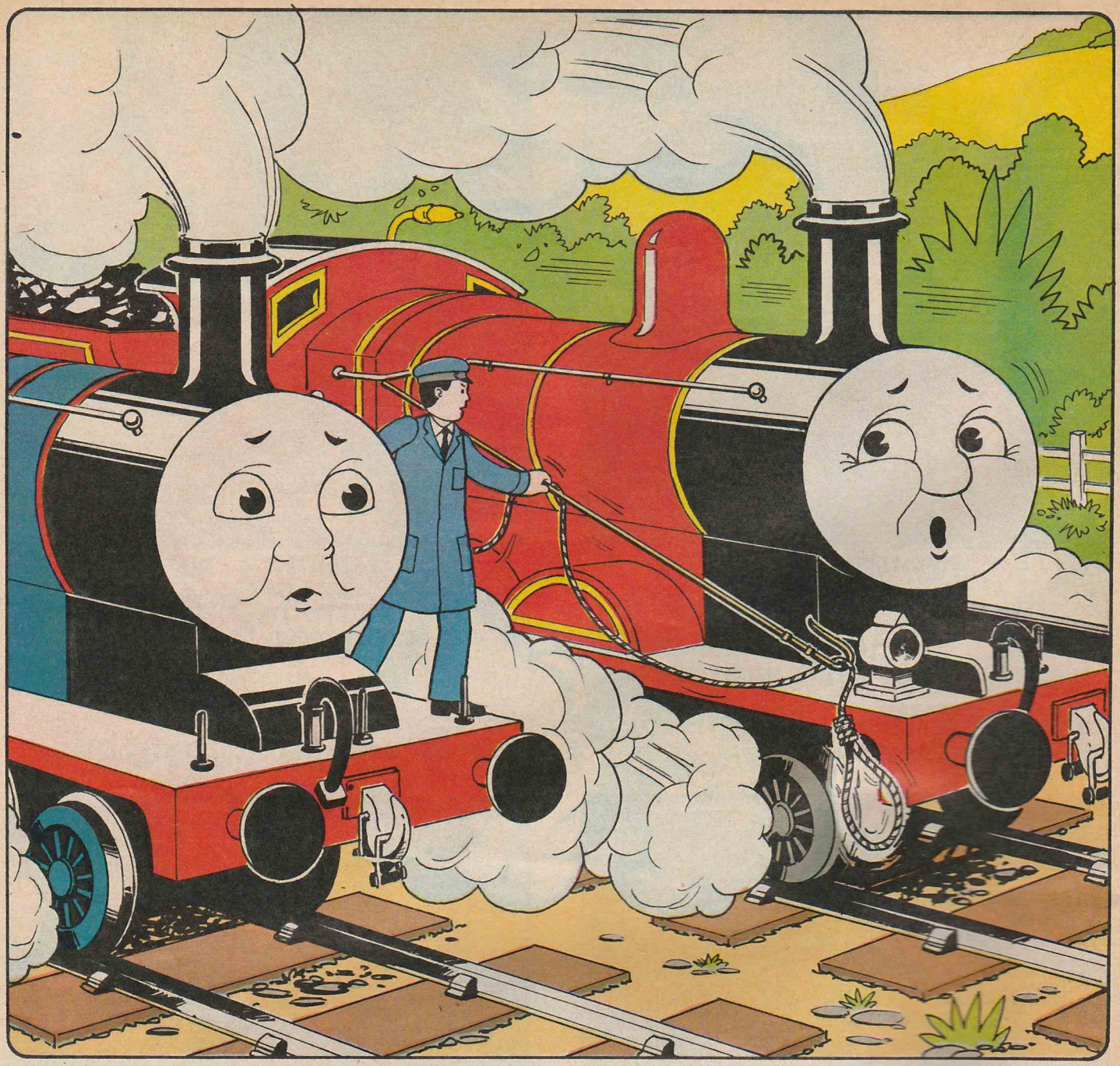
7. "He wants a shunter's pole," the Signalman continued. "And a coil of wire rope." "What for?" wondered the Fireman. "Search me!" said the Signalman.



8. The Fireman was ready when Edward arrived. The Inspector saw the pole and the rope. "Good man," he said. Edward puffed, "We'll catch him. We'll catch him."

9. Meanwhile, James was laughing, "What a lark! What a lark!" But he was going faster and faster. Then he realised he had no Driver. "I can't stop!" he cried. "Help!"

10. "We're coming," called Edward. He was panting up behind James with every ounce of steam he had. At last he caught up. "Steady!" called his Driver.

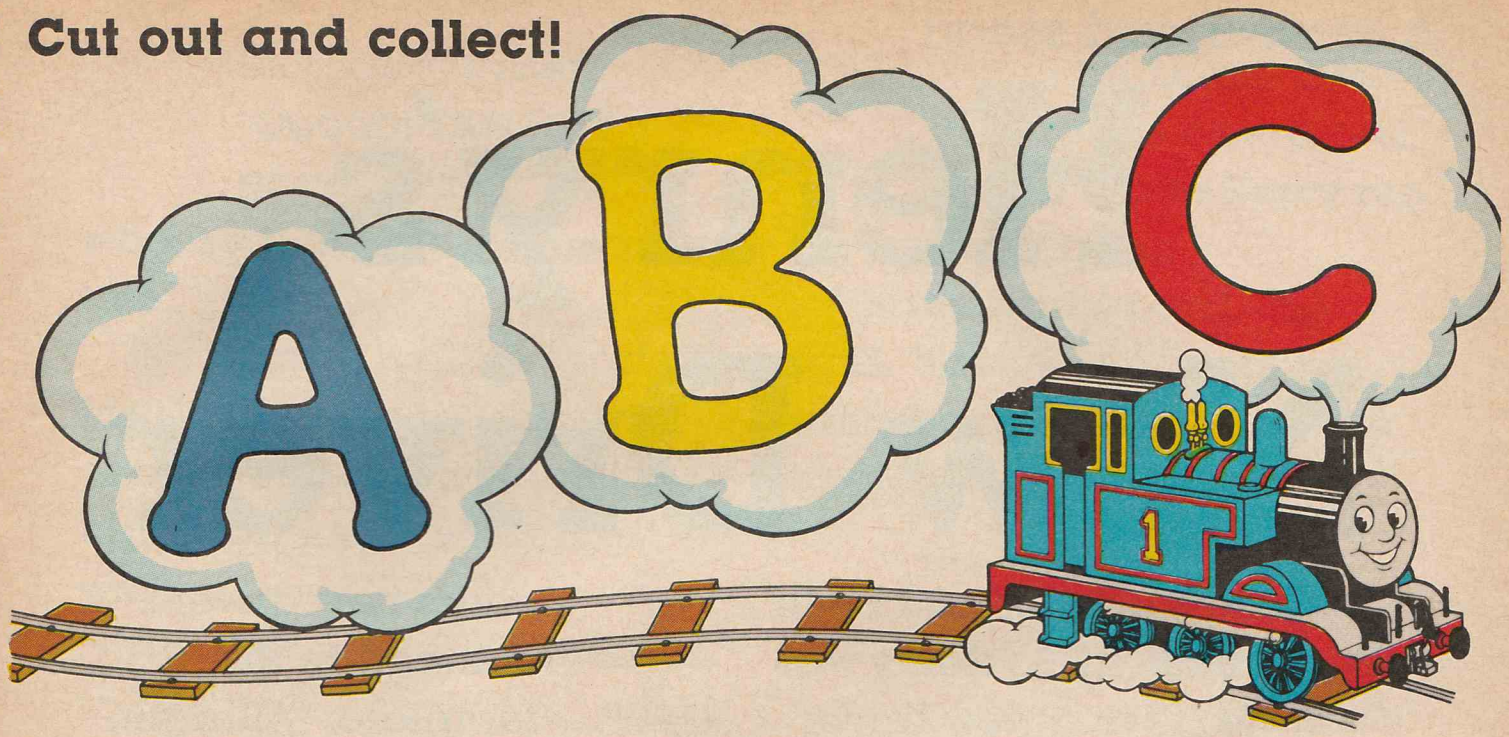


11. The Inspector stood on Edward's front holding a noose of rope in the crook of the shunter's pole. He was trying to slip it over James's buffer. The engines swayed and lurched. At last, he shouted, "Got him!" He pulled the noose tight. The Driver braked gently and then James's Fireman scrambled across and took control.

12. Edward chuckled, "So the 'old iron' caught you after all!" "I'm sorry," whispered James. "Thank you for saving me." "That's all right," said Edward. "I'm proud of you, Edward," said the Fat Controller. "You shall go to the works and have your worn parts mended." "Thank you, sir," said Edward. "It'll be lovely not to clank." **THE END**

In our next issue: Percy's in trouble!

Cut out and collect!



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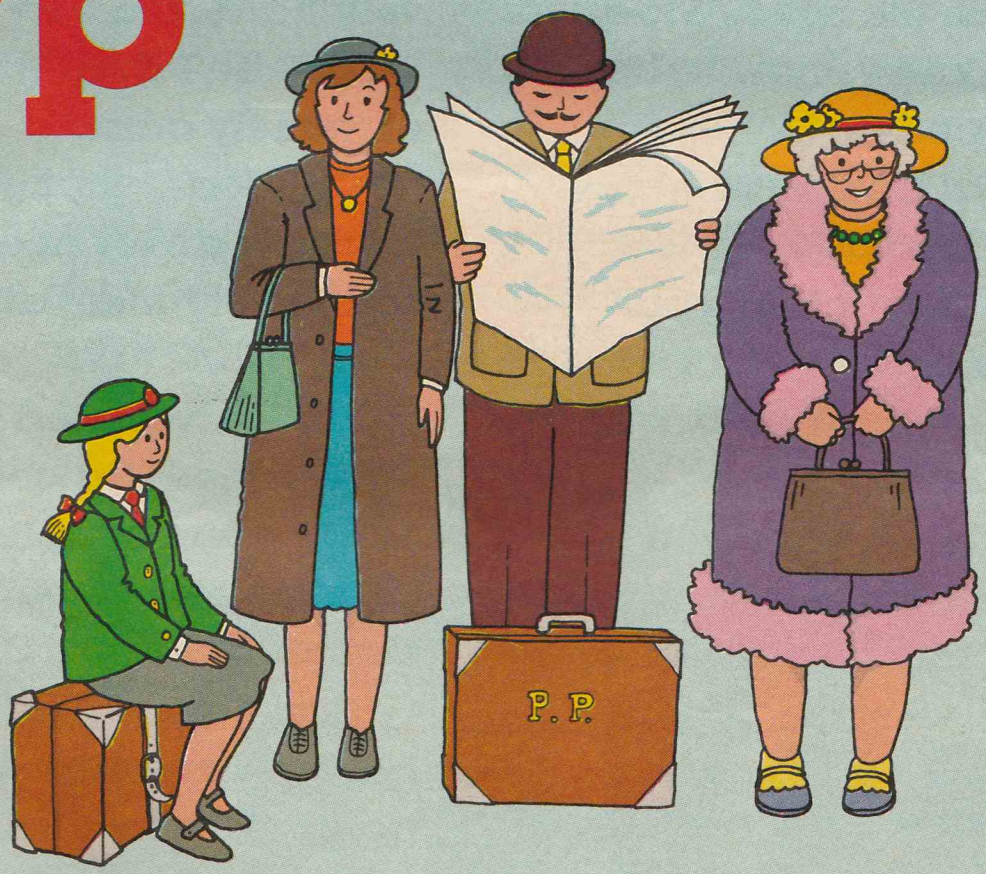


passengers

A read-aloud story!

Henry's New Driver

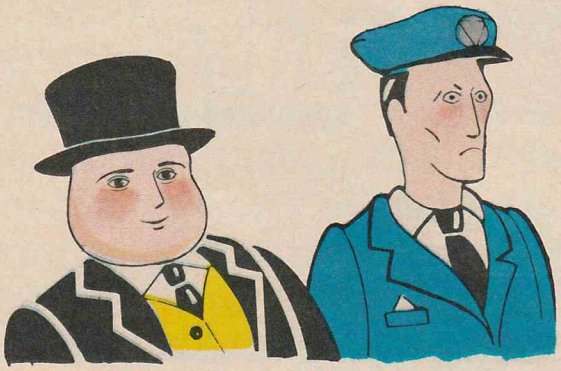
Henry's driver had been taken ill. So Henry was to have a new driver for a few days.

"I do hope he is a nice driver," thought Henry, resting in the shed. "My driver always knows how to handle me properly."

The Fat Controller came over to the shed. He was followed by a thin, sour-faced man.

"This is your new driver, Henry," said the Fat Controller. "I hope you will work hard for him."

"I will, Sir," promised Henry.



Henry's new driver climbed to the footplate. "All right, Henry, I want to show the Fat Controller what a good driver I am. So you must work very hard and very fast. Otherwise I shall get extremely cross."

"Oh, dear," thought Henry. "My new driver does not sound very nice, at all."

Henry pulled out of the shed. His coaches were coupled to him. Then he puffed out of the station.

"Come along, Henry!" barked his driver. "You can go faster than that."

"Yes. Faster, Henry faster! Hee! Hee!" echoed the coaches behind him.

Henry went faster. "Ooooh! This isn't good for me!" he wheezed, hurrying along the line.

"Nonsense, Henry," snorted his driver. "The trouble with you is you're lazy. I don't think you know what hard work is."

The driver told the fireman to stoke up Henry's fire. Henry went faster still. "Go on, Henry! Go on!" he shouted.

"Not so fast, not so fast," cried the coaches, who didn't think it was so funny now.

Henry had had enough. When they stopped at the next station he refused to move again.

The Fat Controller came out on Percy to see what was wrong.

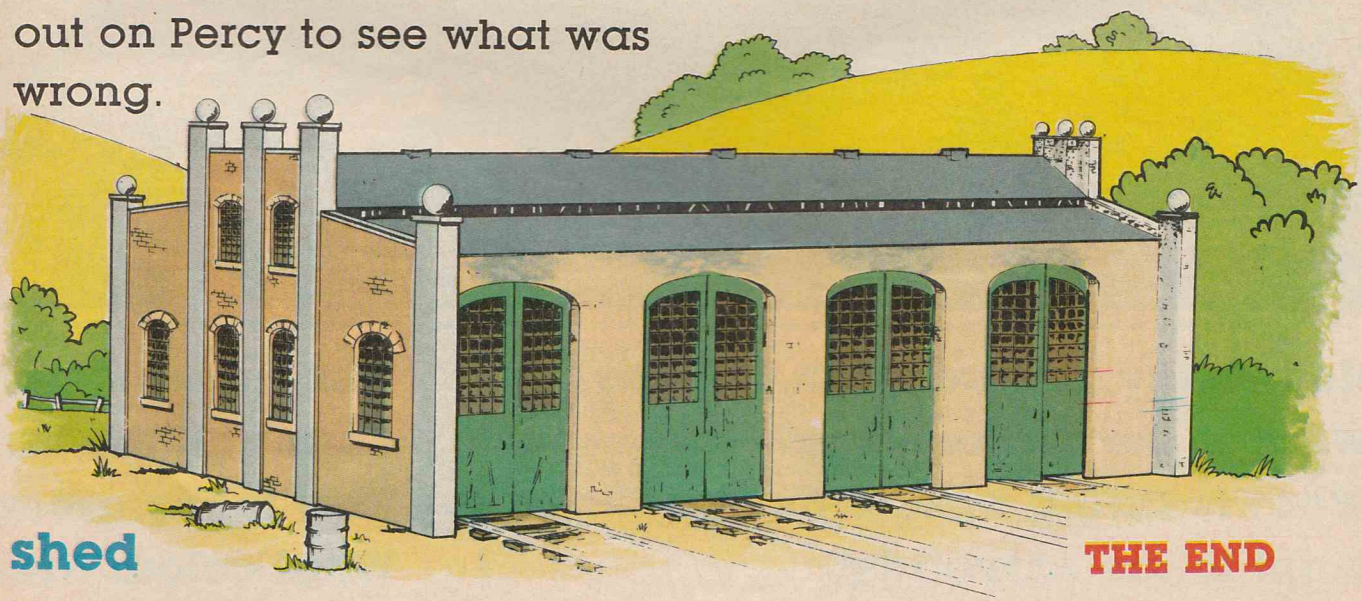
When he heard how hard the new driver had made Henry run he was very cross.

"Henry works hard," he said. "But he is a highly-strung engine. He has to be treated kindly."

The driver apologised to Henry. When Henry left the station his driver allowed him to run at his proper speed.

That evening, when Henry had returned to the shed his driver thanked him. "You are a hard-working engine, Henry," he said.

Henry was pleased. His new driver was not so bad. But he was very glad when his own driver returned.



shed

THE END

The tree ho

How many children can you see?

What is the girl reading?

What is sitting next to her?

Point to the ladybirds!

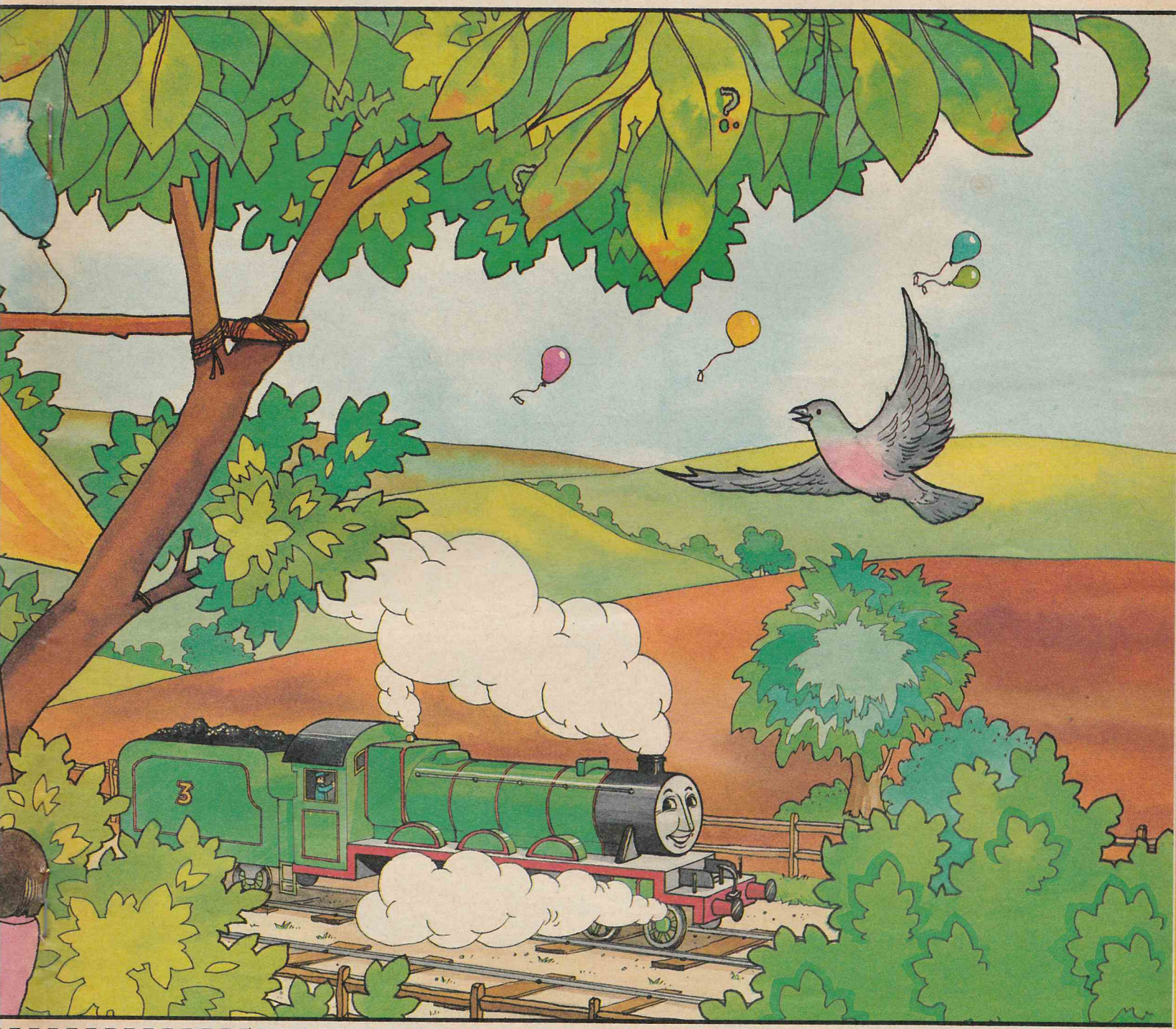
Has Henry any carriage

Count all the balloons!

How many green ones

What colour are the app

ouse!



rriages?

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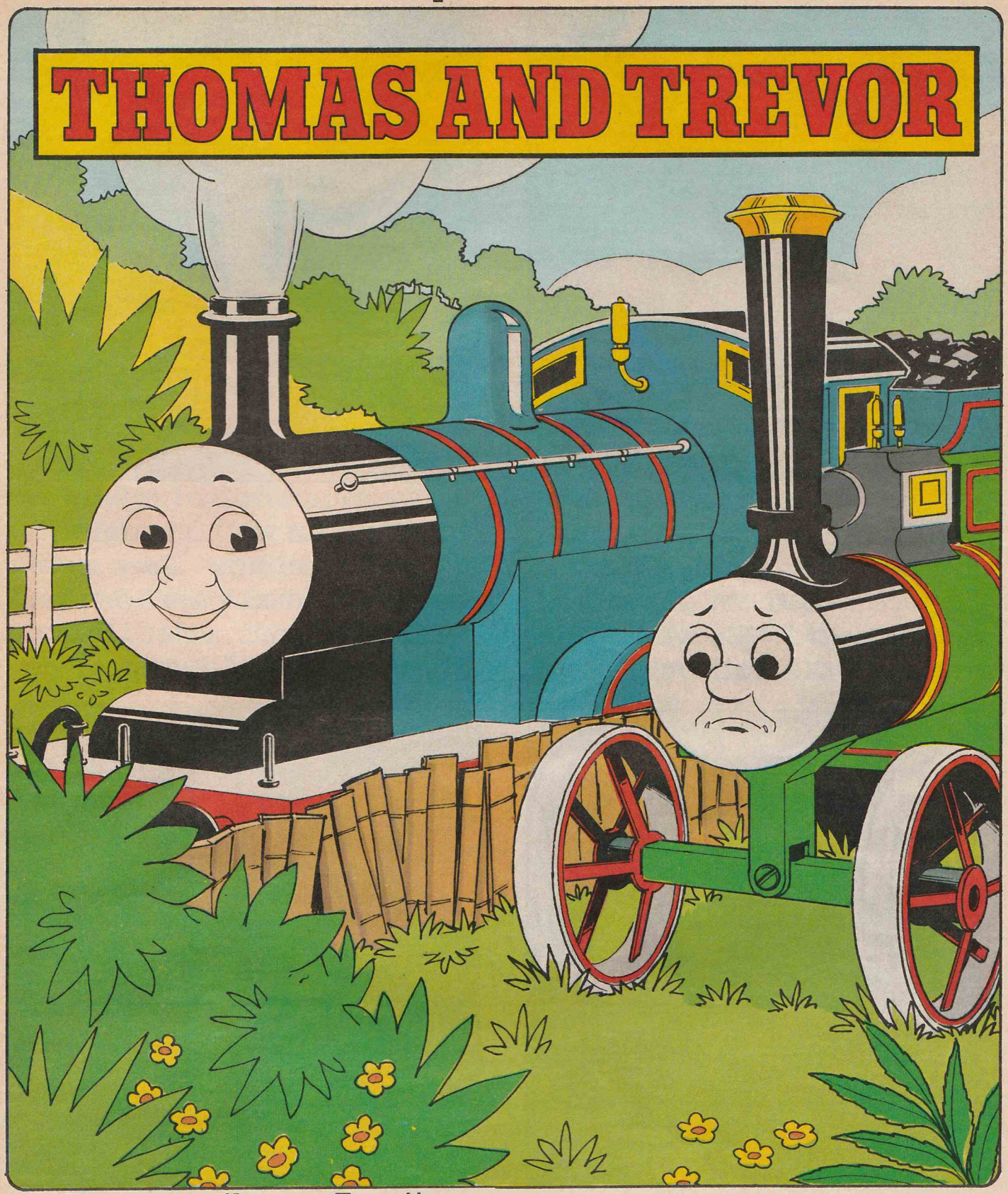
Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the magazine with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There is a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room?

Next: Up the hill!

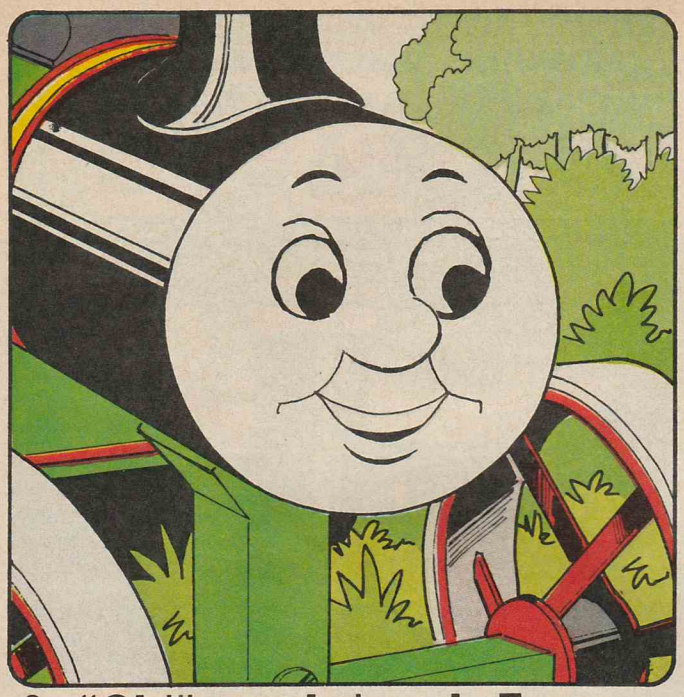
COLOURING TIME!

Here's a jolly sight for you to colour!

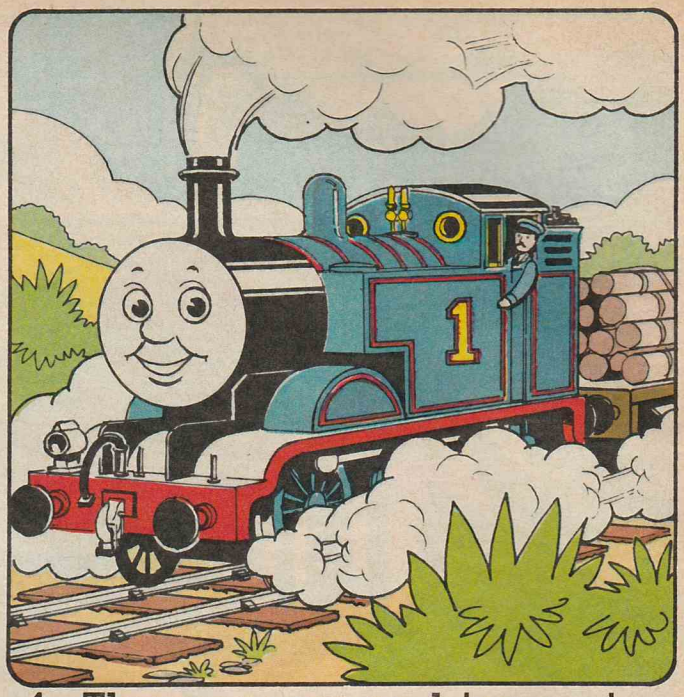


1. Trevor the Traction Engine enjoyed living in the Vicarage Orchard. Edward came to see him every day, but sometimes Trevor didn't have enough work to do.

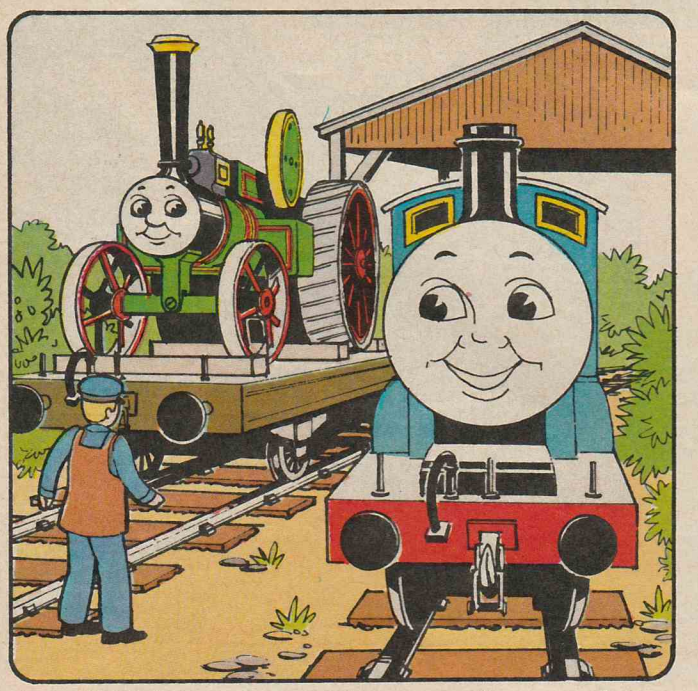
2. "I do like to keep busy all the time," he sighed one day. "Cheer up," smiled Edward. "The Fat Controller has work for you at his new harbour. Come with me."



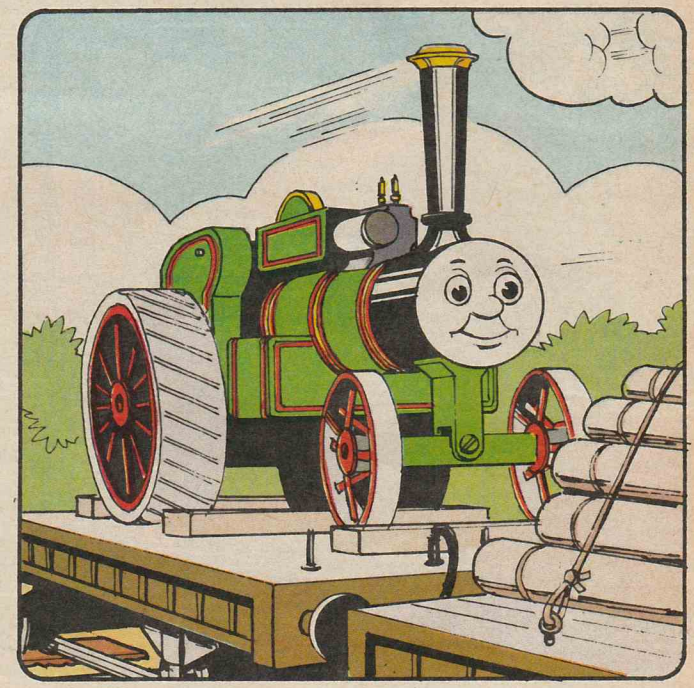
3. "Oh!" exclaimed Trevor. "A harbour, the seaside, and children! How lovely." "I'm to take you to meet Thomas," said Edward. "He will take you on to the harbour."



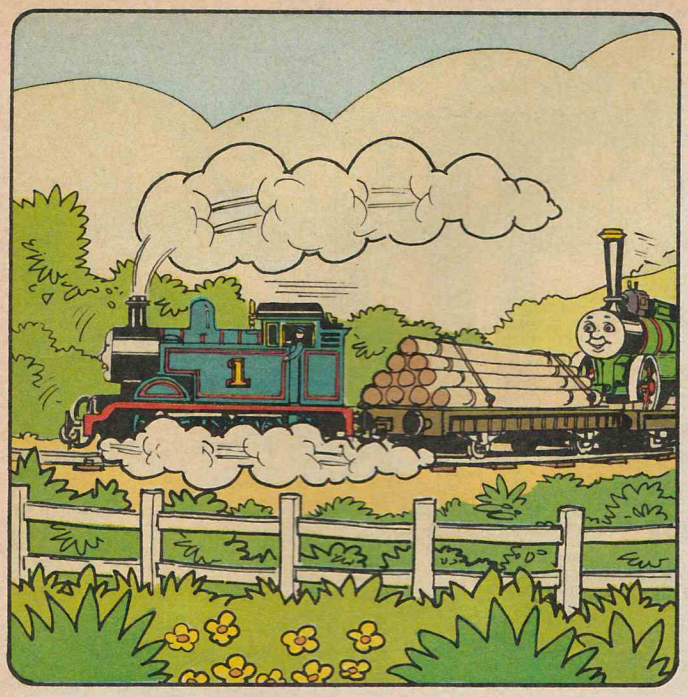
4. Thomas was on his way to the harbour with a trainload of metal pilings. They were needed to make the harbour wall firm and safe. "Hello, Thomas," said Edward.



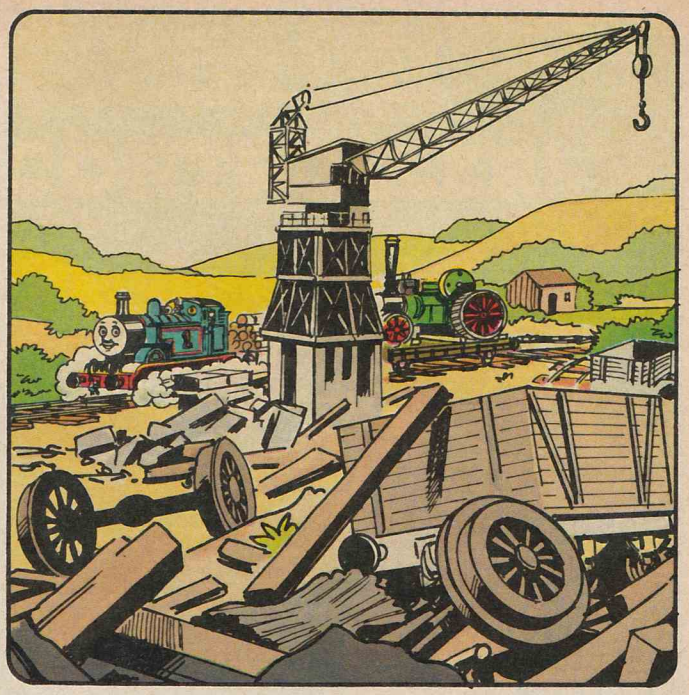
5. "This is Trevor," said Edward. "He's a Traction Engine." "A what engine?" asked Thomas. "A Traction Engine," explained Trevor. "I run on roads, not rails."



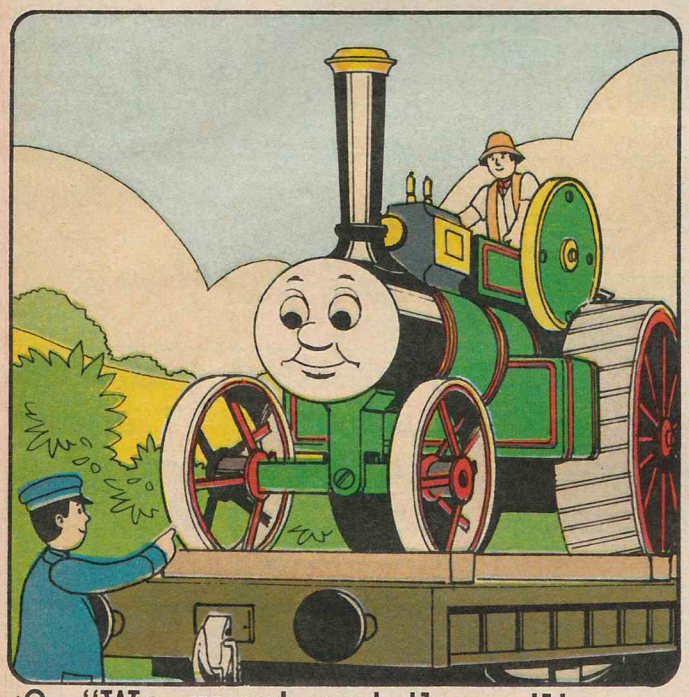
6. Thomas was still puzzled. Workmen coupled Trevor's truck to Thomas's train and they were soon ready to go. "I'm glad that the Fat Controller needs me," called Trevor.



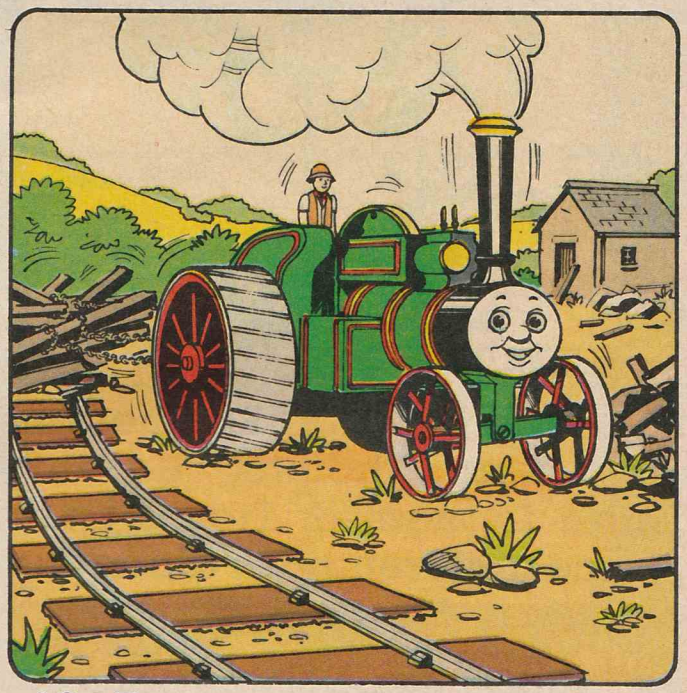
7. "I can work anywhere," said Trevor. "But you don't run on rails," puffed Thomas. "I don't need rails to be Really Useful," replied Trevor. "You wait and see."



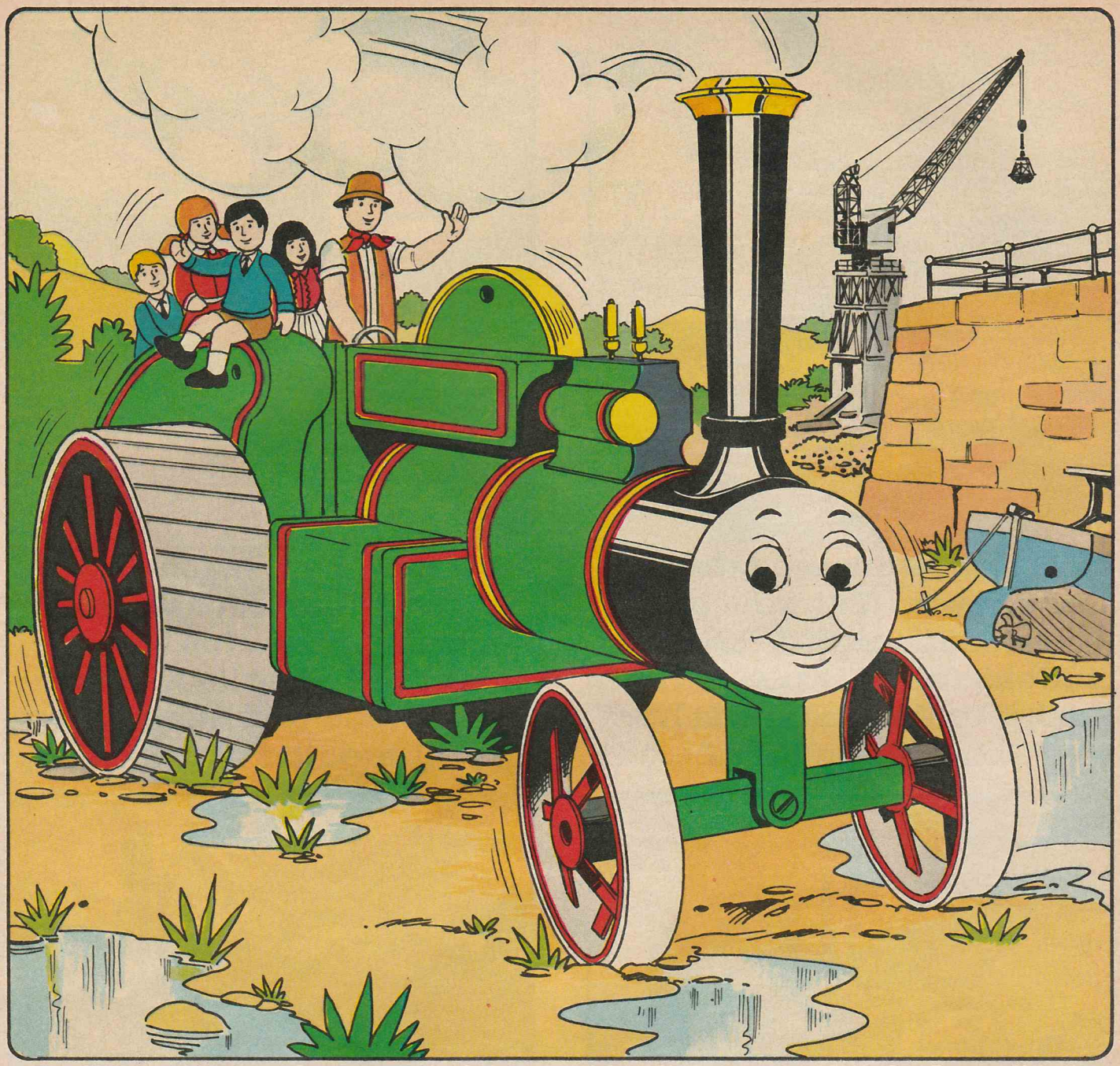
8. When they reached the harbour they found everything in confusion. Trucks had been derailed, blocking the line and stone slabs lay all over the place.



9. "We must get the pilings past," said Thomas's Driver. "They are essential. Trevor, we need you to take them." "Now I'll show you what I can do," said Trevor.



10. Trevor was as good as his word. He dragged the pilings clear with chains and towed them into place. "Who needs rails?" he muttered cheerfully to himself.



11. "Now I understand how useful a Traction Engine can be," said Thomas. He was most impressed. Trevor gave some children rides along the harbour. He liked this best of all. Everyone was sorry when it was time for Trevor to go. Thomas pulled him to the junction. A small tear came into Trevor's eye. Thomas pretended not to see.

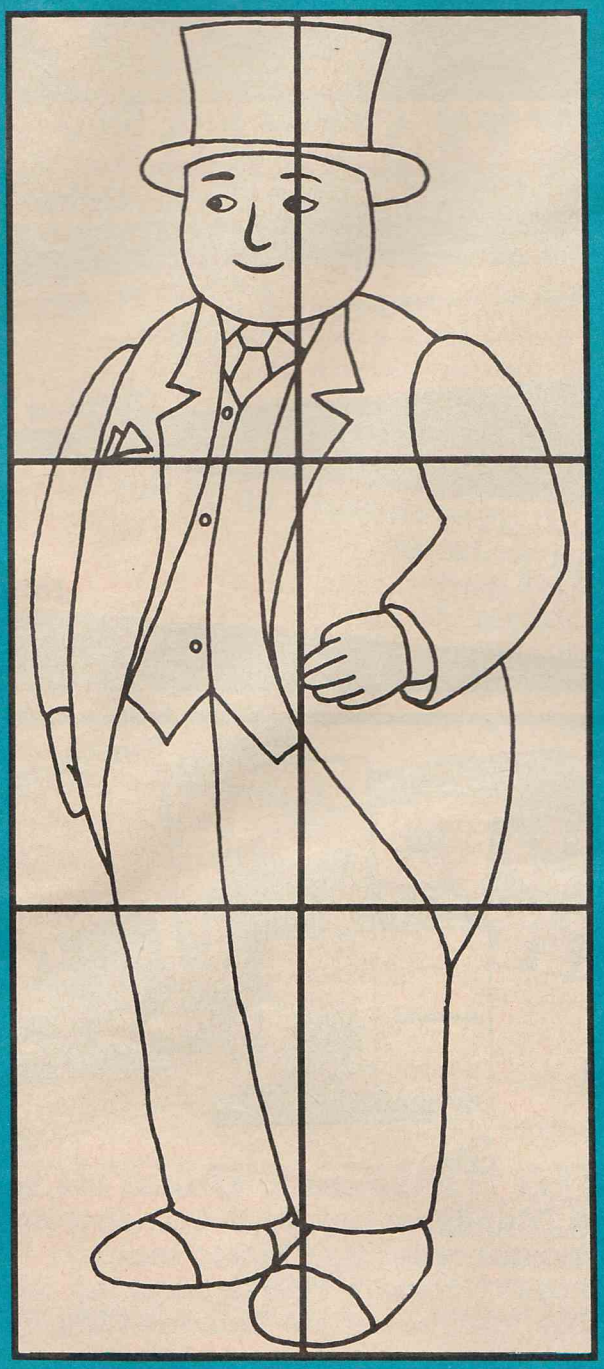
12. Thomas whistled gaily to make Trevor happy. "I shall come and see you if I can," he promised. "The Vicar will look after you and there's plenty of work for you now at the orchard, but we may need you again at the harbour some day." "That would be wonderful," said Trevor. That evening, Trevor went to sleep very happily indeed.

THE END

In our next issue: Meet Duck!

PUZZLE TIME!

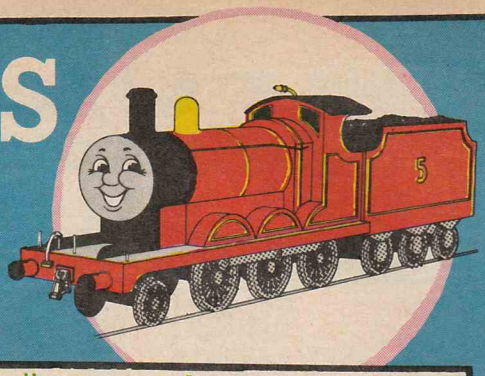
DRAW THE FAT CONTROLLER!



Look at the picture on the left. It is divided into squares. Take a pencil and see if you can copy the lines in each square, using the squares on the right. Do each square at a time. When you have copied each square carefully, you should have a spendid picture of the Fat Controller!

Now you can colour them both in!

JAMES'S JAPES



Thank you for sending us all your funny jokes. Here are a few of James's favourites!

What game do horses play?
Stable tennis!
Catherine.

Why can't a car play football?
Because it's only got one boot!
Hattie.

What is a crocodile's favourite game?
Snap!
Zak.

What do you call a person with a piece of wood on his head?
Edward!
Clifford.

How do you make a sandwich spread?
Sit on it!
Alan.

What goes straight up in the air and wobbles?
A jellicopter!
John.

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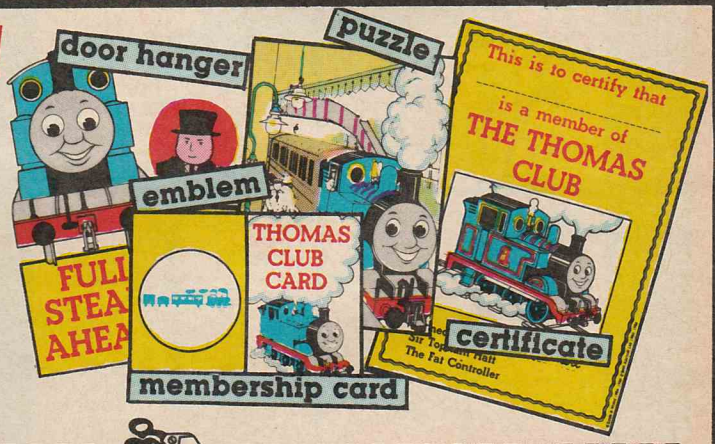

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Age..... **Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

Signature of parent/guardian.....

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Write to:

THE FAT CONTROLLER

Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below! I would be so pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

★★★★★★★★★

Dear Fat Controller,
My mum took my little brother and I on a train journey from Llandudno to Stafford. On the train we saw a ticket collector. My little brother shouted out, 'Hey, look! There's the Fat Controller!' and made everyone laugh.

Love from **Patricia.**

My goodness! I think that must be the first time I have been mistaken for a ticket collector! I say!
Patricia wins a **Thomas the Tank Engine egg cup,** from *Wedgwood.* Will you send us your address please, Patricia?

★★★★★★★★★

A POET!

Dear Fat Controller,
At my school I won a certificate for doing poetry. I was the only boy in my class to win. I had to say my poem in front of all the teachers and the rest of the school.

From **Scott,** aged 5

Jolly well done! I used to be quite fond of Kipling myself, but that was many years ago.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our birthday good wishes go to:

Simon Ratcliffe, Nathan Meller, Benjamin Seales, Wayne and Carl Sutcliffe, Joseph and Samuel Thomas, Declan Carey, Adam Carson, Joanne Bayley, John Marsden, John Williams, Nicholas Treagust, Jamie Gibson, Douglas Cook, Daniel Wilcock, Peter Godward, Rupert Webber, Craig Taylor, Michael Fysh, Paul Hoy, Gavin and Neil Bridge, Daniel Tyrer, Simon Hall, Shane Johson, William Jones, Alastair Noakes, Timothy's friend, Rick Walker, Terry Johnstone, Barry Graves, Holly Mawer, James Newcomb, Ian Pring, Andrew Chappell, Andrew Death, Lee Webber, Marie Kavanagh, Matthew Young, Simon Teppett, Timothy McKenzie, Jack Buchanan, Philip Clewer, Thomas Crabb, Martin Willgress, Andrew and Julia Stokes, Robert Morley, Louise Paddock, Michael Main, Paul Fraser, Helen Bright, Graeme Johnston, Mark Denham, Matthew Beresford, Wayne Leverett and Finlay Duff!

Many happy returns to you all!

If you'd like a birthday mention, please send details at least 8 weeks in advance, on a postcard please!

Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt

The Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.

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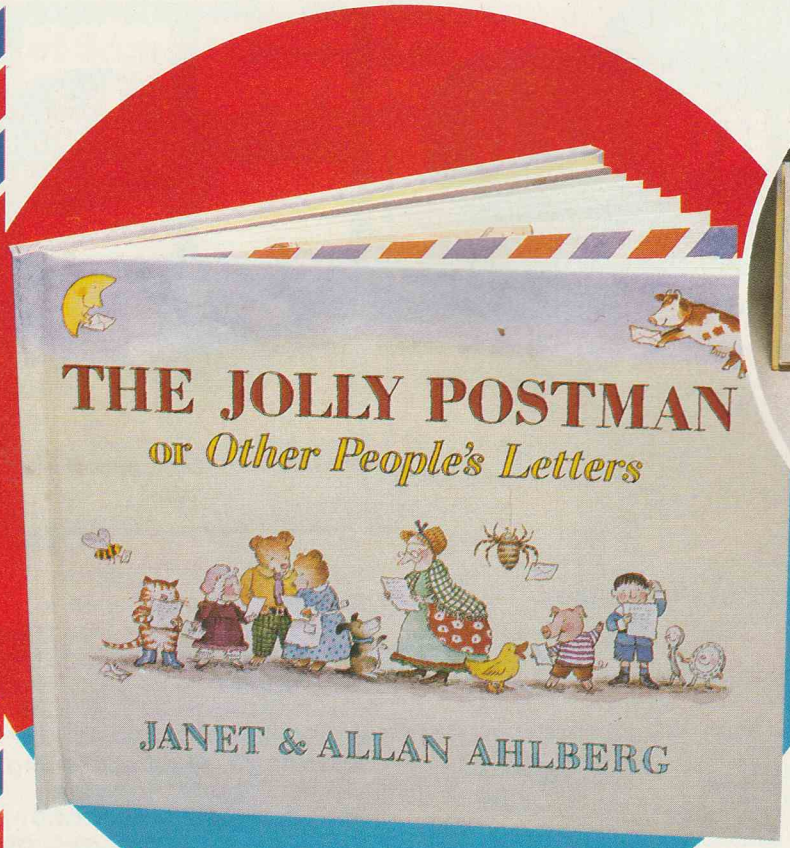

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